

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for driving a multi-color light-emitting display panel including a plurality of drive lines and a plurality of scanning lines intersecting with each other, and a plurality of capacitive light-emitting elements, having polarities connected to said scanning lines and said drive lines at a plurality of intersections of said drive lines and said scanning lines, and being divided into a plurality of types by a color of light emission, said capacitive light-emitting elements of the same color type being arranged on each of said plurality of drive lines, comprising:

scanning means for selectively supplying one of a first potential and a second potential higher than said first potential to each of said plurality of scanning lines; and

drive means for selectively supplying one of an output of a current source for applying drive current and a third potential for an offset voltage, equal to or less than a light emission threshold voltage of said element, to each of said plurality of drive lines,

wherein said drive current and said third potential are variable.

2. A driving apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

control means for repeatedly setting a scanning period to select one scanning line of said plurality of scanning lines and a subsequent reset period in accordance with a scan timing of input image data, and for designating at least one drive line of

said plurality of drive lines corresponding to at least one capacitive light-emitting element which should be emitted light on said one scanning line during said scanning period in accordance with said input image data, wherein

said scanning means supplies, during said scanning period, the first potential to said one scanning line and said second potential to scanning lines other than said one scanning line, and supplies, during said reset period, said first potential to all scanning lines,

said drive means supplies, during said scanning period, said drive current to said at least one drive line to apply a positive voltage not less than said light emission threshold voltage to said at least one capacitive light-emitting element in the forward direction, and supplies, during said reset period, said third potential to at least one subsequent drive lines to be designated to apply an offset voltage not higher than said light emission threshold voltage to at least one capacitive light-emitting element which should be allowed to emit light during the next scanning period, and

said drive current and said third potential are made variable for each type of said capacitive light-emitting elements.

3. An apparatus for driving for a multi-color light-emitting display panel according to claim 2, wherein

said drive means has a variable current source for outputting said drive current and a variable voltage source for providing said third potential, corresponding to each of said

plurality of drive lines.

4. A driving apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
said drive means applies, during said reset period, said first potential to drive lines other than said subsequent drive line.
5. A driving apparatus according to claim 2, comprising hue control input means for outputting luminosity data showing levels of brightness of each color of light emission in accordance with operational input, wherein
said control means sets levels of said drive current and said offset voltage for each type of said capacitive light-emitting elements in accordance with said luminosity data, and
said drive means varies said third potential to provide the level of said offset voltage set by said control means and varies said drive current to provide the level of said drive current set by said control means.
6. A driving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first potential is the ground potential, said second potential is a fixed potential, and said third potential is equal to said offset voltage.
7. A driving apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
a voltage applied to the both ends of a capacitive light-emitting element by supplying with said drive current corresponding to the type of said capacitive light-emitting element during said scanning period, is equal to said second potential plus said offset voltage.
8. A driving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said

second potential is variable.

9. A driving apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said scan means has a variable voltage source for providing said second potential, corresponding to each of said plurality of scanning lines.

10. A driving apparatus according to claim 2, comprising hue control input means for outputting luminosity data showing levels of brightness of each color of light emission in accordance with actuation input, wherein

said control means sets, in accordance with said luminosity data, a level of said second potential and levels of said drive current and said offset voltage for each type of said capacitive light-emitting elements,

said scan means varies said second potential to provide the level of said second potential set said control means, and

said drive means varies said third potential to provide the level of said offset voltage set by said control means and varies said drive current to provide the level of said drive current set by said control means.

11. A driving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said capacitive light-emitting elements are organic electroluminescence elements.

12. A method for driving a multi-color light-emitting display panel including a plurality of drive lines and a plurality of scanning lines intersecting with each other, and a plurality of capacitive light-emitting elements having polarities connected to said scanning lines and said drive lines at a plurality of

intersections of said drive lines and said scanning lines, and being divided into a plurality of types by a color of light emission, said capacitive light-emitting elements of the same color type being arranged on each of said plurality of drive lines, said method comprising the steps of:

repeatedly setting a scanning period to select one scanning line of said plurality of scanning lines and a subsequent reset period in accordance with a scan timing of input image data,

designating at least one drive line of said plurality of drive lines corresponding to at least one capacitive light-emitting element which should be emitted light on said one scanning line during said scanning period in accordance with said input image data,

supplying, during said scanning period, the first potential to said one scanning line and said second potential to scanning lines other than said one scanning line, and supplying, during said reset period, said first potential to all scanning lines, and

supplying, during said scanning period, said drive current to said at least one drive line to apply a positive voltage equal to or greater than said light emission threshold voltage to said at least one capacitive light-emitting element in the forward direction, and supplying, during said reset period, said third potential to at least one subsequent drive line to be designated during a next scanning period to apply an offset voltage equal to or less than said light emission threshold voltage to at least one capacitive light-emitting element which

should be allowed to emit light during a next scanning period,
said drive current and said third potential being variable
for each type of said capacitive light-emitting elements.